



FOR YOUR *information*

A MONTHLY UPDATE ON
STATE BOARD PROCEEDINGS,
ASSOCIATION NEWS &
K-12 TOPICS

September 9, 2022



SBOE Approves Intent to Adopt CCR Indicator as Graduation Requirement

The SBOE voted 6-3 Thursday to announce intent to adopt a new Amended Administrative Code rule that would require a college and career readiness (CCR) indicator to graduate high school beginning in 2028. Gov. Kay Ivey, who serves as president of the board by virtue of her office, told a packed auditorium the time is now to close the gap between the graduation and college and career readiness rates, citing a 92% graduation rate vs. a 76% college & career readiness rate. "It's about closing opportunity gaps and giving kids an opportunity to excel," Ivey said.

The proposed rule will be open for public comment for 45 days with a vote expected in November.

Other board action included amendment adoptions to several Alabama Administrative Code rules, including a rule related to "certain teaching techniques," which will subject educators to the Educator Code of Ethics if found to engage in developmentally inappropriate classroom discussion regarding sexual orientation or gender identity in grades K-5, as passed in the state legislature.

The board work session included an overview of the 2021-2022 ACAP results, an update on the ALSDE's FY24 budget request and a presentation outlining updates special education services.



Convention Registration Opens Thursday, Sept. 15

Registration opens at **8 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 15** for the annual AASB Convention & Delegate Assembly, which will be held **Dec. 1-3, 2022**, at the Hyatt Regency Birmingham - The Wynfrey Hotel.

Earn up to 8 training hours and enjoy this year's exciting speaker lineup, including **2021 Time Kid of the Year, Orion Jean**, who will share an inspiring message about the life-changing power of kindness. Also, New York Times bestselling author, educator and business leadership adviser **Stedman Graham** will motivate attendees to hone in on their unique strengths and skills in his session, "Identity Leadership."

Pre-Convention Workshop

Arrive early and join us **Thursday, Dec. 1 from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.** for the Continuous School Improvement Workshop offering helpful information about leadership and supports to improve student achievement in systems with underperforming schools. Workshop registration is \$50; Lunch is included. 3.5 training hours.

How to Register/Reserve Hotel Room

ON OR AFTER Thursday, Sept. 15, visit AlabamaSchoolBoards.org/Convention for registration links and additional information. Convention registration is \$299.

HOTEL: You must first register for Convention before booking a room in AASB's block at the Wynfrey (rate \$133/night). The group code and other details on booking a room will be provided in your Convention registration confirmation email.

NOTE: Rooms will book quickly; however we will maintain a waiting list once the hotel sells out. Most people on the waiting list are ultimately able to get into the hotel as registration cancellations occur closer to the event.

Important Message to Members Regarding Coverage of Recent AASB District Meeting

A media outlet has been the source of erroneous reporting about AASB's District 5 meeting last Tuesday, and we think it is important AASB members have accurate information.

As part of the Advocacy Update in which AASB Executive Director Sally Smith discussed public schools being in the crosshairs of the culture wars, she referenced an effort by Local Alabama, a grassroots parent group, to collect examples of inappropriate content in Alabama classrooms. She noted she was concerned this group's goal (according to published reports) is to take the examples to the state AG and state BOE instead of local school boards – the entities that could address parental concerns right away. It seems a participant from the District 5 meeting shared this information with a friend who reported it to a media outlet.

The resulting story and spinoff stories state AASB members were told the following (direct quote): "Local Alabama is responsible for disinformation that is leading to a low view of public schools in Alabama." **That statement is a complete fabrication.**

AASB provided [this written statement to the outlet](#) and has chosen not to respond to additional requests for interviews because we don't want to give the story more life or lend credibility to the misinformed reports on the meeting. The story and spinoff commentary are being used to create an untrue and unfortunate narrative that local school boards and AASB are critical of parents. This media outlet is also running parallel stories about the survey of school board members by the Alabama Policy Institute, which coincidentally owns this media outlet. The stories cite the low participation rate as school boards' "lack of transparency" which should be a concern to parents.

Contrary to the narrative being pushed in these inaccurate stories, AASB will always advocate for parents, communities and school boards working in partnership for public education and for the important role school boards play in governance of local schools. AASB is in dialogue with Local Alabama and looks forward to working together to address parent concerns.

Please don't hesitate to contact AASB Executive Director Sally Smith with any questions or concerns about this matter.



There's Still Time to Register for Remaining Fall District Meetings

If you have not yet attended your AASB Fall District Meeting, there's still time to register for the remaining dates. Join fellow board members for dinner and a "must-see" training experience with this year's topic, "The Real School Boards of Alabama: Micromanagement Season."

Follow along as our cast of acts out real-world scenarios of board micromanagement, distractions, disarray, miscommunication, unforced errors and community discord. Then, AASB's experts will share guidance to help your school board steer clear of the drama and keep its focus on effective governance for student achievement.

Registration is \$30, which includes dinner. Attendees will earn 1.5 hours.

All District Meeting times are 6 to 8:30 p.m. View dates and locations below, and click to register for one of the remaining District Meeting dates:

- **District 8:** Tuesday, Sept. 13 | The Magnolia Room, Decatur | [REGISTER](#)
- **District 4:** Thursday, Sept. 15 | AASB Office, Montgomery | [REGISTER](#)
- **District 7:** Monday, Sept. 19 | Hotel Capstone, Tuscaloosa | [REGISTER](#)
- **District 6:** Tuesday, Sept. 20 | Classic on Noble, Anniston | [REGISTER](#)
- **District 9:** Thursday, Sept. 22 | Top O' The River, Guntersville | [REGISTER](#)



AASB Fall Conference: Get Up to Speed on

Improving Math Achievement

It's not too late to reserve your spot for AASB's Fall Academy Core Conference, Leadership for Academic Achievement, which will be held **Sunday, Oct. 2 and Monday, Oct. 3** at the Renaissance Montgomery Hotel & Spa. Hear from expert education leaders and speakers who will discuss research-based practices and strategies for raising student achievement, especially in math, with general sessions on *How the Brain Learns Mathematics* (**Jo Boaler**) and *Making the Numeract Act a Launchpad for Improved Learning* (**Sheila Holt**). \$165 | 6 training hours | [REGISTER](#)

Extend your learning **Monday, Oct. 3 from noon to 2 p.m.** during the Fall Post-Conference Workshop, "Principal Effectiveness & Growing Aspiring Leaders." This session will explore how to grow the skills of your administrators and get the best leader in every school. \$105 (lunch included) | 2 training hours | [REGISTER](#)



District Director Elections

Congratulations to **District 1 Director Ann Peach**, who ran unopposed for her first full term, and **District 3 Director Rev. Russell Clausell**, who ran unopposed for his second term on AASB's Board of Directors. Kudos also are in order for Madison City school board member, **Alice Lessman**, who ran unopposed for District 9 Director.

Ballots will be mailed soon listing the following director nominees for Districts 5 and 7:

- **District 5 - David Bobo** (Shelby County); **Derek Henderson** (Alabaster); and **Sonja Smith** (Birmingham)
- **District 7 - Verlander Jones** (Hale County); **Marvin Lucas** (Tuscaloosa); and **Randy Smalley** (Tuscaloosa County)

Board presidents must certify the board voted at a meeting to choose a candidate, and ballots must be received or postmarked to AASB by Oct. 31.

[Learn More](#)



'Get in the Game' with



Raising County Board

AASB Membership Card

Did you know your AASB membership card (non-transferable) entitles you to free admission to AHSAA state championship playoff games if a school in your system is competing? To request your membership card, call AASB at 800-562-0601 or send us an email at membership@AlabamaSchoolBoards.org.

Compensation

Is your county school board considering a member compensation raise? Boards can only act to raise their compensation at the Annual Meeting which must be held each November. Board members can receive compensation of up to \$600 a month unless a higher figure is set by a local act. [Learn more.](#)



Complete Whole Board Training by Sept. 30 and Save!

It pays to plan ahead. Schedule and complete your AASB-led whole board training **by Sept. 30** and save 10% off the regular fee.

AASB's exemplary training team is prepared to help you improve your skills via [nearly 50 interactive courses](#) created to meet your boards' needs and fulfill the state-mandated, two-hour whole board training requirement.

For more information, contact AASB Executive Assistant for Leadership Development, Stephanie Bell, at sbell@alabamaschoolboards.org or call 800-562-0601.

[Request Your Training](#)



Just Ask Jayne

Tenure for Rehired Teacher

Dear Jayne:

One of our teachers was nonrenewed this past spring at the end of her third year of

employment but we're considering hiring her back for the fall semester. If we do so, will she be tenured?

[View Answer](#)

AASB Job Board



Superintendent: Barbour County Schools

The Barbour County Board of Education is seeking a skilled and experienced leader able to build a strong school system, improve student achievement, grow community support and use data-driven decision making. [Learn more/apply.](#)



CSFO: Sylacauga City Schools

The Sylacauga City Board of Education is seeking a skilled, goal-oriented chief school financial officer to work efficiently with the superintendent and board in building and maintaining a high-performing school system. [Learn more/apply.](#)



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